

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 16-21 are currently pending. Claims 1-4 have been canceled without prejudice by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, regarding the term "defect density"; and Claims 16-21 were allowed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claims 1-4 is rendered by the present cancellation of those claims.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussion, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as submitted herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

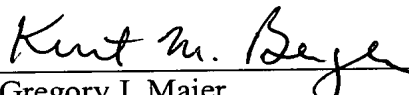
Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 03/06)



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599

Kurt M. Berger, Ph.D.
Registration No. 51,461